ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Kidney disease is diagnosed by measuring urinary catalytic iron in humans.

Progressive kidney disease is treated by administering an iron chelator to humans. In particular, the progression of kidney disease essentially can be halted and the severity of kidney disease can be reduced by the administration of iron chelators to humans afflicted with a progressive kidney disease. The methods include measuring catalytic iron content in urine in a human afflicted with a progressive kidney disease and administering an iron chelator to the human. The method can include measuring total urinary protein content, blood urea nitrogen or creatinine in a blood sample before, during or after the administration of an iron chelator.